Ecological responses of squamate reptiles to nocturnal warming

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Résumé

Nocturnal temperatures are increasing at a pace exceeding diurnal temperatures in most parts of the world. Yet, the role of warmer nocturnal temperatures in animal ecophysiology has received scant attention and most studies focus on diurnal or daily descriptors of the temporal trends of the thermal environment to draw their conclusions. Here, I will illustrate the complex effects of nocturnal warming on squamate reptiles, a keystone group of vertebrate ectotherms, using qualitative and quantitative reviews as well as an energetic model of ectotherm foraging.

Mots-Clés: global warming, nighttime ecology, reptiles